

MEDICAL CONTROL GUIDELINE: VASCULAR ACCESS

PRINCIPLES:

1. Vascular access is a catheter inserted intravenously (IV) or a needle intraosseously (IO) through which medication and/or fluid bolus can be administered.

GUIDELINES:

1. Saline lock: IV device used intermittently for patients with stable vital signs or patients who may need limited IV medications or fluid volume.
2. Normal Saline fluid challenge/bolus/resuscitate:
 - a. Medical Adult: 10mL/kg rapid IV fluid administration with reassessment at 250mL increments; if presence of rales, stop infusion; otherwise continue up to 10mL/kg.
 - b. Trauma Adult: 250mL increments
 - c. Pediatric: 20mL/kg See Color Code Drug Doses/L.A. County Kids, reassess after initial fluid challenge
3. Intraosseous Access – refer to Ref. No. 1318, Medical Control Guideline: Intraosseous Access
4. Pre-Existing Vascular Access Devices – refer to Ref. No. 1330, Medical Control Guideline: Pre-Existing Vascular Access Devices